Influx of Tribals from Bangladesh into Tripura

768. SHRI J. P. GOYAL:
SHRI CHITTA BASU:
SHRI RAMKRISHNA MAZUMDER:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Bangladesh security forces has launched a conncerted onslaught on the tribals of the Chittagong Hill Tracts forcing their influx into the country and that over 5000 tribals were forced to cross over into Tripura in June, 1986 alone. if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government have taken up the matter with the Government of Bangladesh; and

(c) if so, what is Bangladesh Governments response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Yes Sir. More than 5,000 Chakma tribals had crossed from the Chittagong Hill Tracts of Bangladesh into Tripura during June 1986 as a result of armed conflict between Bagladesh security forces and Chakma guerillas. As on July 22, 1986 a total of 22, 892 Chakma refugees had entered Tripura from Bangladesh.

(b) and (c) The question of the early return of these refugees to their homeland had been discussed with the Government of Bangladesh and they have promised to take action to work out modalities jointly with the Indian side for the return of these refugees.

Shifting of Head Offices of tea companies from Calcutta to Gauhati

769. SHRI CHITTA BASU:
SHRI RAMKRISHNA MAZUMDER:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a Circular issued by the Assam Governments recently asking the tea companies having gardens in Assam to shift their Head Offices from Calcutta to Gauhati; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) The Government is not aware of any such circular.

(b) Does not arise.

Military aid to Pakistan

770. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:
SHRI SHANKAR SINH VAGHELA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that during the recent past the United States and some other European countries have arming Pakistan with deadly weapons which it does not need at all;

(b) if so what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what steps Government have taken to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) Pakistan has been acquiring sophisticated military hardware including tanks, guns, armoured personnel carriers, missiles, attack helicopters and F-16 aircraft from a number of countries including the U.S.A.

(c) Government continue to maintain a constant vigil over all developments having a bearing on the country's security.